

[24 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

| 1                   | 2             | 3                | 4               |
|---------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 15.                 | Meghalaya     | 168.00           | 45.55           |
| 16.                 | Mizoram       | 70.00            | 12.73           |
| 17.                 | Nagaland      | 85.00            | 67.24           |
| 18.                 | Orissa        | 8803.00          | 2915.22         |
| 19.                 | Punjab        | 5967.00          | 5867.02         |
| 20.                 | Rajasthan     | 5128.00          | 4695.12         |
| 21.                 | Sikkim        | 70.00            | 26.23           |
| 22.                 | Tamil Nadu    | 5532.00          | 3660.73         |
| 23.                 | Tripura       | 281.00           | 94.88           |
| 24.                 | Uttar Pradesh | 30499.00         | 30654.00        |
| 25.                 | West Bengal   | 6918.00          | 4661.45         |
| <b>Total States</b> |               | <b>139749.00</b> | <b>89428.55</b> |
| <b>Total UTs</b>    |               | <b>144.00</b>    | <b>130.42</b>   |
| <b>Grand Total</b>  |               | <b>139893.00</b> | <b>89558.97</b> |

**Per capita water availability**

4250. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita water availability in India in 1995 in comparison to 1998; and

(b) the action proposed to ensure that water scarcity does not occur in view of population growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) As per the population projections made by the Registrar General of India in 1996, population of India increased from 916 million in 1995 to 966 million in 1998. Accordingly, the per capita water availability at the national level was 2040 Cubic Metre (cu.m) in 1995 and 1934 cu.m. in 1998.

(b) Water resources development including construction of major, medium and minor projects for utilization of water is taken up

by the State Governments from their own resources as per their priorities. Upto 1995, a live storage capacity of 177 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) had been created by construction of large dams in the country creating an irrigation potential of 90 Mha by the end of 8th Plan. Projects to add an additional storage capacity of about 75 BCM are under construction and for 132 BCM are under various stages of planning. For early completion of ongoing irrigation projects, the Government of India has been extending financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme since 1996-97 to State Governments.

Further, Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge. Assistance is also extended to State Governments under Command Area Development Programme for bridging the gap between potential created and utilized.

As a long term measure, National Water Development Agency, established in 1982 by Ministry of Water Resources have formulated National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development which envisages interlinking between various peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins. The Agency has completed pre-feasibility studies of all the 17 water transfer links under the peninsular rivers development component and 14 water transfer links under Himalayan rivers development component. Feasibility studies of 5 water transfer links have also been completed.